## PRESS RELEASE FROM PRESIDING OFFICER DUWAYNE GREGORY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, June 1, 2015



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## **Legislature Welcomes First Pages**



**HAUPPAUGE, N.Y.** – Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory and the Suffolk County Legislature on Saturday, May 30 welcomed 13 select high school and college students to the Legislature's first annual summer Page Program. The two-month program will provide these young people a unique opportunity to participate in the everyday operations of a local government.

After Saturday's orientation, pages will spend the next eight weeks working directly with legislators with whom they have been paired. Throughout the week, pages will work from District Offices, where they will conduct legislative research, contribute material to the legislators' social media and provide quality service to constituents. Each Friday, pages will report to the Legislature's William H. Rogers Building for workshops and lectures on leadership and government.

"I am deeply honored to welcome 2015's inaugural class of pages," said Suffolk County Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory. "Our investment in these young people is an investment in the county's future. These civic-minded students are our next generation of leaders. Whether they choose to serve in government or in the private sector, the tools they develop in our Page Program will help them better contribute to their communities now and in the future."

"It was great to meet and interact with Suffolk County's first ever pages this past weekend," stated Legislator Kate Browning. "These young leaders will have the unique experience of working at the heart of local government where they will learn about the critical role legislators and their staff play in assisting residents and implementing policy. This is an amazing opportunity to shape our future leaders and open the doors of government to individuals who are passionate and committed to public service. I look forward to working with all of our pages throughout the summer."

"It's a huge privilege to see firsthand how the legislature helps people," said Sarah Whitworth, a political science major at Suffolk County Community College who is paired with Legislator Sarah Anker of the 6th District. "I'm looking forward to getting to know the other pages as we gain hands-on experience in government."

For more information on the Page Program, please contact the Suffolk County Legislature at (631) 853-4088 or visit the Suffolk County Legislature's <u>website</u>, legis.suffolkcountyny.gov.

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